homes in Delhi, *i.e.,* those managed by the Government and those run by the NGOs.

Sex ratio of slum children

863. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in as many as 21 out of 26 States/UTs, the slum child sex ratio is higher than their non-slum counterparts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are taking the matter seriously to set right the things in future; and

(e) if so, the guidelines worked out so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Statement showing child sex ratio for non-slum urban and slum population is enclosed (See below).

(c) Some of the reasons commonly put forward to explain the consistently low level of sex ratio are son preference, neglect of the girl child resulting in higher mortality at younger age, female infanticide, female foeticide, higher maternal mortality and male bias in enumeration of population. The last, but not the least, may be the latest trend of having preference for a small family of one son and one daughter. Easy availability of the sex determination tests and abortion services may also be proving to be catalyst in the process, which may be further stimulated by pre-conception sex selection facilities.

(d) and (e) A number of steps have been taken by the Government like:— (i) Setting up of National Inspection and Monitoring Committee, (ii) Setting up of National Support and

Monitoring Cell, (iii) Sensitization of the Appropriate Authorities, (iv) Sensitization of the Medical Community, (v) Restriction of sale of Ultrasound Machines to Registered bodies, (vi) Awareness Generation against the practice of pre-natal determination of sex and female foeticide through Print and Electronic media, (vii) Training of Judiciary, (viii) Involvement of District Magistrates to review the implementation of the PC & PNDTAct.

Statement

Sex ratio of population and in the age group 0-6 for non-slum urban and slum population — India by State and Union Territory reporting slum: 2001

SI. No.	States/Union Territory	Child sex ratio in the age group 0-6	
		Non-slum urban population	Slum population
1	2	3	4
	INDiA	904	919
1.	Andhra Pradesh	954	959
2.	Assam	943	932
3.	Bihar	922	948
4.	Goa	925	898
5.	Gujarat	831	884
6.	Haryana	799	834
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	872	886
8.	Karnataka	939	949
9.	Kerala	958	935
10.	Madhya Pradesh	906	912
11.	Maharashtra	899	930
12.	Meghalaya	967	982

12.00 Noon

1 2	3	4
13. Orissa	930	957
14. Punjab	792	821
15. Rajasthan	886	902
16. Tamil Nadu	955	959
17. Tripura	948	959
18. Uttar Pradesh	892	877
19. West Bengal	949	944
20. Andaman and Nicobar	931	965
21. Chandigarh	825	917
22. Delhi	. 859	919
23. Pondicherry	962	998
24. Chhattisgarh	935	948
25. Jharkhand	929	942
26. Uttaranchal	868	902

Note: Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep have not reported any slums in 2001.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Posts) Notification GSR. 30 (E) dated the 20th January, 2006, publishing the Indian Post Office (Amendment) Rules, 2006, under sub-section (4) of section 74 of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898. [Placed in library See No. L7-3697/06]